

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

1416 NINTH STREET, P.O. BOX 942836
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**NOV 01 2011**

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The Department of Water Resources (DWR) respectfully submits a report required by section 10608.20(b)(4) of the Water Code. This section is part of a water conservation law enacted November 2009 (Water Code section 10608, et seq.) that requires urban retail water suppliers to develop water use targets for the year 2020 that would contribute to a statewide 20 percent reduction in urban per capita water use on or before December 31, 2020. The law prescribes three methods that urban water suppliers may choose from to determine their own targets. In addition, DWR was directed to develop a fourth target method using criteria specified in the law.

About 430 urban retail water suppliers are required to choose one of the four target methods and report their targets for 2020 in urban water management plans that must be adopted by July 1, 2011.

Water Code section 10608.20(b)(4) required DWR to report to the Legislature no later than December 31, 2010, the fourth urban water use target method that it has developed. The attached report describes the fourth target method as well as a general overview of the water conservation law requirements.

The urban water use target method described in the attached report has been developed through an extensive public participation process. It was a challenge to develop a method that satisfied criteria prescribed in the law given the regional and local diversity of urban water supplier systems in California. The report was delayed in order to develop an improved target method with greater public acceptance. Even so, limitations remain in the target method that has been developed, and for this reason it has been called Provisional Target Method 4 (Target Method 4). DWR is committed to work with stakeholders to improve the method by 2014, when a review is required by law.

A summary of the report is attached. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please call me at (916) 653-7007, or your staff may contact Manucher Alemi, Chief of DWR's Water Use and Efficiency Branch, at (916) 651-9662 or by e-mail at malemi@water.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Mark W. Cowin".

Mark W. Cowin
Director

Attachments

Distribution List

Electronic copy of one-page summary distributed to all members of the Legislature.

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**A Summary of the "Fourth Target Method for Urban Water Suppliers
to Determine Urban Water Use Target for 2020"**

Pursuant to Section 10608.2(b) (4)

A water conservation law enacted November 2009 (Water Code section 10608, et seq.) requires urban water suppliers to develop water use targets for the year 2020 that would contribute to a statewide 20 percent reduction in urban per capita water use on or before December 31, 2020. As part of the law, section 10608.20 (b)(4) required DWR to develop a fourth target method by which urban water suppliers could determine their water targets for 2020 and to report this method to the Legislature by December 31, 2010. The report describes the method developed, the public process used to develop the method and other proposed alternative methods.